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LOFTUS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT
for the Year 1961

of the Medical Officer of Health

T. M. B. ROHAN,
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

OF THE

LOFTUS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my second Annual Report, for the year 1961, the contents and arrangements of which are in accordance with Circular 1/54 of the Ministry of Health.

I would like at the outset to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement throughout the year.

To the Heads of Departments I am again obliged for their co-operation at all times. To Mr. W. C. Ranson, whose report follows mine, I owe an especial debt for his unstinted help in all matters concerning the health of the District.

Finally, I wish to thank the two clerical officers, who working in the Area Health Office, have contributed materially to the smooth conduct of affairs.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. M. B. ROHAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1963.

TABLE 1

Public Health Officers

Whole Time Officers	Guisborough Urban District	Skelton & Brotton Urban District	Loftus Urban District
Medical Officer of Health who is also Asst. County Medical Officer No. 4 Area N.R.C.C. and School Medical Officer, N.R.C.C.	Dr. T. M. B. Rohan (commenced duty 5/6/61)		
Public Health Inspectors	*Mr. A. T. Pallister	Mr. J. H. Rhodes	*Mr. W. C. Ranson
Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. E. Ward		Mr. W. Murray

*Also Surveyor of the district concerned

County Public Health Staff attached to the Loftus Area.

Miss R. F. Cracknell	Health Visitor/School Nurse
Miss H. J. Lindsley	District Nurse/Midwife
Miss E. Pressick	District Nurse/Midwife
Miss D. G. Pybus	District Nurse
Mr. R. K. Nuttall	Senior Clerk
Miss D. E. Fox	Clerk Typist.

SECTION 1.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1961 is 7,990 as compared with one of 7,740 for the mid-year 1960.

General Statistics

I am indebted to the Financial Officer of the Council for the following figures:—

1. Area of the District in acres 9,974
2. No. of inhabited houses according to the rate books 2,683
3. Rateable Value £88,905
4. Sum represented by a penny rate £351

The District consists of the town of Loftus, the industrial communities of Skinningrove and part of Carlin How and the hamlets of Liverton, Scaling, Easington, Street Houses and Cowbar. The principal industries today are the iron and steel works and agriculture.

TABLE 2 — Vital Statistics

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningo-coccal infection	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung, Bronchus	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	7	5
Leukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	1	—
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	4	8
Coronary Disease, Angina	13	1
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	—
Other Heart Diseases	8	5
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	2
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—
Bronchitis	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—
Gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	2	4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
ALL CAUSES	49	29

Deaths

The deaths are classified under thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. 78 deaths of residents gave a corrected death-rate of 11.2 per thousand of population as compared with 12.0 for England and Wales.

TABLE 3

Vital Statistics

			Male	Female	Total
Live Births		....	86	78	164
Legitimate		....	86	76	162
Illegitimate	...	....	—	2	2
Still Births	....	....	3	1	4
Legitimate	....	....	3	1	4
Illegitimate	....	....	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

				Male	Female
Total	....	...	....	—	1
Legitimate	...	....	....	—	1
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—

Births

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 164, giving a birth rate of 20.5 per thousand of the population compared to 17.4 for England and Wales.

One infant under the age of one year died, giving an infantile mortality rate of 6.1 per thousand live births compared with one of 21.6 for England and Wales.

TABLE 4

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1961

(other than Tuberculosis)

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 year	2	3	4	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	65—	Age Un-known
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	186	4	22	28	26	23	76	6	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningo-coccal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 5

Tuberculosis

No new cases of respiratory tuberculosis and none of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year. There were no deaths from this disease.

TABLE 6

Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation against Diphtheria	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	Total
Completed	79	12	2	93
Reinforcing	—	4	187	191

Immunisation against Whooping Cough	0 to 4	5 to 14	Total
Completed	91	2	93

Vaccination (Smallpox)	Primary	Re-Vaccination
	56	10

Poliomyelitis Vaccination	Primary	Reinforcing
	974	683

The General Provision of Health Services in the District

1. Laboratory Facilities

This work is now done at the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough, only the biological test for tuberculous milk being carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton.

2. National Health Service Act, 1946

With certain exceptions the Guisborough Area Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee of the County Council exercises the functions of the Local Health Authority in supervising the day to day administration of the services provided under this Act. The Committee met every two months. It is composed of members of the County Council, of the three District Councils of Guisborough, Skelton and Brotton, and Loftus, and of certain co-opted members. Among the services administered are the following:—

Domestic Help Service	Home Nursing
Prevention of illness: Care and After Care	Health Visiting
Ambulance Service	Midwifery
Vaccination and Immunization	Care of Mothers and Young Children.

3. Voluntary Care Committee

I would like to record the work done by this Body for the welfare of persons suffering from Tuberculosis and other illnesses. Enquiries and requests for assistance may be made to the Honorary Secretary, District Health Office, Park Lane, Guisborough (Telephone: Guisborough 2521).

4. National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 — Section 47.

There was no procedure taken under these Acts during 1961.

SECTION II

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1961

by W. C. Ranson, M.R.S.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the
Loftus Urban District Council

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work carried out in the year ending 31st December, 1961.

Water Supplies

During the year, fifty-one samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination from various supply points in the district. The samples obtained in the Liverton area continue to show a quality of water which is below standard, and remedial measures are being considered by the Council. Owing to demolition of property, the use in dwelling-houses of the private supply to Street Houses has now ceased.

The following table shews the results of the examination of samples:—

TABLE 1.

AREA OF SUPPLY	CLASSIFICATION											
Zetland Estates—South Loftus	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	2	2	1	3	2
Wykeham Estates—Liverton Village	1	2	1	3	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Wykeham Estates—Liverton Mines	2	2	2	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	2	4
Tees Valley Water Board—Liverton Mines	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
Tees Valley Water Board—Easington	1	–	1	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	–	–
Tees Valley Water Board—Loftus	1	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Tees Valley Water Board—Skinningrove	–	1	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1

Food Premises

The following table shews the number of food premises of various types within the Urban District. In a case where a shop deals in more than one type of goods, cognisance has been taken of the main food sold. Of these premises 31 are also registered for the sale only of ice cream, there being no ice cream manufactured in the district. In addition

5 are registered for the manufacture of sausage, brawn, pies, etc., the main work being the manufacture of sausages. In only two cases are pies manufactured in the district.

Butchers	5
Fishmongers	1
Grocers	19
Greengrocers	5
Bakers and Confectioners	2
Sweets and General Goods	27
Canteens, etc.	5
Licensed premises	18
Fish frying premises	7
Bakehouses	3

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1956

During the year, 158 visits were made to food premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations, and, while minor infringements were found, the general standard of hygiene was very good. In nine cases where attention was drawn to infringements, the trouble was remedied by informal action.

Licensed Premises

There are 18 licensed premises in the area. Periodical inspections have been made to these.

Fish Frying.

There are seven fish frying premises in the district. These were inspected on 24 occasions.

Bakehouses

There are three bakehouses in use in the district. Eleven inspections of these were carried out.

Food Poisoning

No outbreak of food poisoning was notified to me during the year.

Meat Inspection

On the 1st July, 1961 the recommendations of the Council's report on Slaughterhouses were implemented, and from that time two private slaughterhouses operated in the district. 100% inspection for all meat slaughtered within the district has been carried out, and for this purpose 578 visits were made.

TABLE 2

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1085	16	6	2676	1200	—
Number inspected	1085	16	6	2676	1200	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	4	—	2	6	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	1.28%	25%	—	0.11%	0.5%	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	29	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2.41%	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis	1.19%	—	—	—	—	—

HOUSING

Housing Statistics

New houses erected in 1961

(a)	By private owners	5
(b)	By the Council	27

1. *Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year*

1.	(*a*) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	506
	(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	584
2.	(*a*) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
	(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
3.	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
4.	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	506

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices*

(1)	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit or repaired in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	501

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year*

A. Proceedings under Sections 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(*a*) By Owners	0
(*b*) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0

Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(*a*) By Owners	0
(*b*) By Local Authority in default of Owners	0

C. Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. . 1

D. Proceedings under Section 16, 17, 18, 26 and 35, Housing Act, 1957

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

4. *Housing Act, 1936, Part 4, Overcrowding*

No accurate figures are available.

5. *Housing Act, 1949, and Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954 and 1957*

(1)	(*a*)	Number of Improvement Grants made—Standard	21
		Discretionary	5
	(*b*)	Number of Improvement Grants refused	0
(2)	(*a*)	Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted	0
	(*b*)	Number of Certificates of Disrepair revoked	0

Sanitary Circumstances of the District

The following table shews the inspections for Nuisances which have been carried out by my department during the year. These inspections do not include inspections made under the Housing Acts, but include all inspections, other than food inspections, made during the year.

TABLE 3

Nuisances

Total number of inspections made for nuisances only			194
Nuisances found			187
Nuisances in hand end of previous year ...			15
Total needing abatement			202
Abated during the year			189
Outstanding at end of year			13
Notices served—Informal	187	Complied with	184
Notices served—Statutory	0	Complied with	0

Number of summonses or legal proceedings — Nil.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, Etc.

There are no common lodging houses, houses let in lodgings or knackers' yards.

Byelaws in force in the District

Building Byelaws, 21st August, 1953.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Conversion of pail closets and privies to the water carriage system has been at a slightly less rate than last year. During the year there were 25 conversions bringing the total number of houses with the water carriage system to 2605 and reducing the number of houses without to 168.

Owners of property are notified of the grant paid by the Council towards the cost of converting to the water carriage system when sanitary pans are reported as being defective. This grant plus the increase in the cost of sanitary pans has greatly assisted towards the increased number of conversions.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The collection of refuse throughout the district, except for isolated dwellings, has been maintained on a weekly basis throughout the year under review. This has been possible by using additional transport and men to augment the regular collection team to cover time lost on Public Holidays.

Controlled tipping is still being carried out in the North Road refuse tip, but following on purchase of a new tip site at Deepdale, preparatory work is in progress, and it is expected that the new tip will soon be in operation.

Shops Act, 1950, Section 37 and 38

Thirty-seven visits were paid under the above-mentioned sections.

Moveable Dwellings

Following on the introduction of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, a second small caravan site was licensed in the area.

During the year nine visits were paid to the two licensed sites and no unsatisfactory conditions were found.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal

The disposal of sewage is carried out by discharging into the sea and during the year under review there have been no complaints received in connection with the sewer outfall.

Blockages on the smaller sewers continue to occur, many of which have been found to be caused by abuse.

During the year work was commenced on the extension of the sewer at Easington to serve the whole of the village. With the completion of this scheme only Liverton Village and outlying farms in the area will be without adequate sewage facilities.

New drainage work on the Council's housing schemes and also on private development continues to be tested, and where practicable the water test is applied. Advice on suitable drainage lay-outs is also given when required.

In this connection the co-operation between local contractors and my department has been very good, and notification of drainage work has been consistently submitted, thus enabling this work to proceed efficiently and smoothly.

Clean Air Act.

The following table shews the deposit in tons per square mile in respect of the deposit gauge at Skinningrove and the concentration of smoke in microgrammes per cubic metre in respect of the smoke filter at Loftus. The deposit gauge is classed as an industrial siting and the readings for the year have been reasonable for this class of site. The smoke filter has not yet operated long enough for any useful comparisons to be made.

TABLE 4

Atmospheric Pollution Tests

Deposit Gauge, Skinningrove						Smoke Filter, Loftus			
Month	pH Value	Rainfall	Undissolved Matter	Dissolved Matter	Fe_2O_3	Month	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average
Jan.	6.8	2.75	32.16	14.62	—	Jan.	—	—	—
Feb.	6.1	1.00	32.00	7.82	—	Feb.	—	—	—
March	6.7	0.83	57.40	22.00	9.05	March	—	—	—
April	5.5	1.86	26.12	7.95	—	April	160	40	87
May	6.5	1.29	39.80	13.19	—	May	120	40	72.7
June	5.6	1.58	13.43	8.09	3.81	June	110	20	53
July	7.0	2.51	34.44	5.59	—	July	100	20	48
Aug.	6.4	1.35	4.61	4.66	—	Aug.	100	20	45.16
Sept.	6.7	1.23	8.75	6.54	2.51	Sept.	90	20	53.5
Oct.	7.0	3.64	15.96	59.80	—	Oct.	140	30	73
Nov.	7.0	0.86	13.70	9.58	—	Nov.	250	10	138
Dec.	6.5	2.08	9.82	13.43	1.14	Dec.	402	33	182

Factories Act, 1937—1959.

TABLE 5.

1. **Inspections** for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	34	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	22	34	—	—

2. **Cases in which defects were found.**

Number of cases in which defects were found			
Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Two	Two	Nil	One

Rodent Control.

The rodent operative appointed jointly by Loftus U.D.C. and Skelton & Brotton U.D.C. has continued his duties in the two areas, this arrangement working very satisfactorily. Sewers in the area were treated twice during the year, light infestations by rats being found in isolated areas. The refuse tip continues to be kept free of vermin. Inspections and treatments of properties in the area were carried out as necessary.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council's Committees for their interest in the running of the Department, to Dr. T. M. B. Rohan, the Medical Officer of Health, for his helpful co-operation, to Mr. W. Murray, the Deputy Surveyor and Additional P.H.I. without whose willing and able help it would not have been possible to carry out so much work, and to the staff and workmen of the Department whose loyalty has made my work so much easier. I would also like to thank Mr. T. C. Ellison, the Clerk of the Council for his close co-operation at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. RANSON,

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.

STOKELD & SONS
PRINTERS, GUSBORO.